

Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Wednesday, April 4, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
Rowe Town Hall - Hearing Room 1

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Morse at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Jennifer Morse, Member Sokol, and Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau
Vice-Chair Dennis May was absent from the meeting.
Assessors Chair Rick Williams, Finance Committee Members: Loretta Dionne, Paul McLatchy III, Wayne Zavoka also present: Kris Swenson and Marilyn Wilson

MINUTES

Motion to accept Minutes of March 28, 2018: Upon review, a motion was made by Chair Morse to accept the Minutes of March 28, 2018 with a correction. The motion, seconded by Member Sokol was accepted. (2/0/1)

OPEN MEETING

Announcement of recording devices & noteworthy information

OLD BUSINESS

1. Town Dams - Meet with Park Ranger Sean Loomis at 6:30 p.m.: Ranger Loomis discussed the ownership of the two dams in Town and that since they were owned by the Park that a plan could be developed for working together with the Keepers of the Dams. It was agreed to meet with the Park Commission at next meeting to discuss further.
2. MLP Update: Member Sokol reported attending a meeting with Charlemont to discuss the 'edge cases' where broadband intersected with a neighboring town and whether it made more sense for one town to carry a particular customer. He indicated the talks were ongoing.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hazard Tree Mitigation Program: National Grid presented indicating some trees needed to be removed due to rot on town property and were not part of new construction or scenic roads. Conservation Commission and the Tree Warden viewed the specific trees with the National Grid Arborist and were satisfied. It was agreed to speak with the School Committee to ask whether they had objections to any tree removal on school property prior to voting.
2. Joint Meeting with Finance Committee and Board of Assessors Chair regarding FY19 Budget: Assessors Chair Rick Williams explained the tax rate and levy limit and activities the Assessors were working on to ensure accurate valuations. An audience member spoke about the need to reduce the Town's insurance contribution from 85%. Chair Morse said a committee will be formed to make recommendations for the future regarding town employee insurance and town contributions. It was agreed to meet on April 18, 2018 to review the final draft of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

3. Bylaw Discussion for Town Meeting Warrant - Finance Committee Bylaw & Noise Ordinance:

- a. Select Board Members reviewed and discussed a By-Law revision presented by the Finance Committee to reduce the number of members since it was so difficult to find volunteers to serve on committees. Following discussion it was agreed to put the article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

The Finance Committee left the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

- b. Select Board Members continued discussed about a By-Law concerning Special Events and Noise. Following discussion it was agreed to put the article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

4. Executive Secretary Updates: Janice Boudreau asked about whether the By-Law regarding Revolving Funds had been filed with the Attorney General. Chair Morse agreed to look into it. Ms. Boudreau said she would review materials for the bond for broadband and Treasurer would follow up in order to have it in place in time for construction.

5. Mail and Correspondence: Select Board Members reviewed mail and correspondence.

Citizen Comments

Adjournment

Warrants FY18 W21, Payroll FY18 W20

Chair Morse invoked the Rule of Necessity to sign the Payroll Warrants as her husband is on the payroll.

Citizen Comments

Adjournment: Seeing no further business, Chair Morse made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:53 p.m. The motion, seconded Vice-Chair May, was accepted. (2/0/1)


Janice Boudreau

Executive Secretary

Approval Date: May 2, 2018

Approved:


Jennifer Morse, Chair


Dennis May, Vice-Chair


Chuck Sokol, Select Board Member

Documents:

- Agenda 04-04-18
- Reserve Fund Transfers
- Police Log for March 2018
- Special Events and Noise Draft By-Law (2 pgs.)